

**REMARKS**

Independent claims 3, 7, 12-14, 17, 23-35, 44 and 45, and dependent claims 8-11, 15-16, 18-22, 37-38, 40, 42 and 43 remain in the application.

Claim 42 has been amended to correct the dependency of the claim and therefore the error noted by the Examiner has been corrected.

Further, the Examiner's Communication raises lists three defects with the Appeal Brief:

(1) "The summary of the invention does not refer to the specification by page and line number."

(2) "Regarding Group #3, this grouping of the claims should be grouped/included with the claims from which they depend on."

(3) "The amendment to the claims dated 6/16/03 has claim 42 dependent on itself."

Item numbers (1) and (2) are corrected in the accompanying Corrected Appeal Brief. Item number (3) is corrected with the foregoing amendment.

Patentee respectfully requests entry of the foregoing amendment, and acceptance of the accompanying Corrected Appeal Brief.

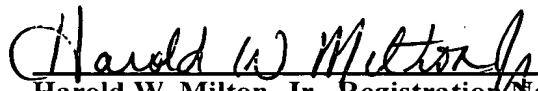
Appln. No.: 09/382,702  
Amdt. dated May 7, 2004  
Reply to Office action of April 7, 2004

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayments to the Deposit Account 08-2789 belonging to Howard & Howard Attorneys, P.C.

Respectfully submitted

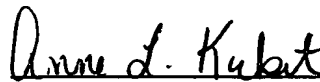
HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

May 7, 2004  
Date

  
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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed **AMENDMENT** and **CORRECTED APPEAL BRIEF** and enclosed **EXHIBITS A-J** are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, in a postage paid, box addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450" on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 as certified and attested to by the affixed Mailing Label No. ER582953061US.

  
Anne L. Kubit